NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POMONA FREEWAY HOV LANE PROJECT COMPLETES

POMONA – The westbound Pomona Freeway (SR-60) High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV, or carpool) lane from the San Gabriel River Freeway (I-605) to the Orange Freeway (SR-57) opened to traffic early this morning, completing a \$122.6 million project that constructed 11.5-miles of new HOV lanes in both directions including the widening of several ramps and construction of soundwalls at various locations.

The eastbound HOV lane opened on September 27.

An opening ceremony was held today at the Puente Hills Mall, where various state and local officials spoke about the importance of the new lane to regional transportation and commerce.

"These lanes will benefit everyone—local residents, commuters and commercial vehicles," said California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District Director Mike Miles. "They'll ease congestion, enhance safety, improve air quality and, of course, promote carpooling."

Other speakers included Los Angeles County Supervisor and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board Chair Don Knabe, City of Industry Councilman Tim Spohn and California Highway Patrol Captain Dan Minor.

"Metro remains committed to funding a variety of transportation alternatives that get solo drivers out of their cars and either onto public transportation or into a car or van pool," said LA County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair Don Knabe. "Adding these lanes along with soundwall improvements and improvements to various on and off ramps along the Pomona Freeway will go a long way towards improving safety, accommodating truck traffic, and minimizing environmental impacts while promoting ridesharing."

HOV lanes save users an average of one minute per mile vs. regular lanes. Each vehicle in an HOV removes two cars from the mixed-flow lanes, reducing congestion overall.

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